

## **Advantages of PVC over Other Plastic Types in Window Construction**

Polyvinyl chloride or PVC is one of the most common plastic materials used today. Because of its durability and relatively low cost, PVC is widely used in building construction. PVC is widely used in pipes, electric cables and as window seals and frames. While there are other plastic materials that are deemed useful for window construction, PVC has been proven to be the best in terms of durability, workability and cost effectiveness.

PVC is a thermoplastic polymer, with the physical properties categorised depending on whether it is a rigid PVC or a flexible PVC. To produce PVC, [plastic manufacturers](#) melt plastic raw materials to form different shapes of plastics. As opposed to thermosetting polymer, thermoplastic polymer can be melted again and remoulded, making them a viable recyclable material. In the construction industry, PVC is more preferred than other plastic materials such as HDPE (high density polyethylene) mainly because of its optimum efficiency. While both materials are durable, HDPE needs to be thicker to achieve the same pressure rating as that of PVC.

In window sealing and weather stripping, thermoplastic plastic types such as PVC and thermoplastic rubber are seen to perform better than thermosetting polymers. Static curtain walls and dynamic window seals also make use of thermosetting polymers such as neoprene, silicone or EPDM (ethylene propylene diene monomer). These thermosetting materials, however, sometimes provide quality issues and relatively higher plastic manufacture costs.

PVC is an excellent material for window seals, glazing gaskets, channels and wedges. As a glazing gasket, the thermoplastic material can effectively cushion the window glass to protect it from weather changes, wind stresses and mechanical shock. The long life and hard-wearing properties of PVC make it a perfect in protecting the building from storms and inclement weather. Acting as

window seal, PVCs help prevent the entry or seepage of storm rain water and runoff inside the premises, thanks mainly to its strong resistance against chemicals, sunlight and water. Likewise, PVC as a window seal material is effective in maintaining the quality of the air inside the building. This translates to considerable cost savings as air conditioning is not wasted due to leaks and outflow of cool air.

PVC is among the most useful plastic materials ever produced. Their effectiveness in window sealing is highly regarded for the cost effective solutions they bring to rather difficult problems. Because of its more superior qualities, PVC will more likely still be the more preferred window glazing gasket and seal material for building construction.

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